



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/685,893	10/15/2003	Candace Christine Modrell	2004-1003	5953
37476	7590	11/17/2005	EXAMINER	
WHITE-WELKER & WELKER, LLC P.O. BOX 199 CLEAR SPRING, MD 21722-0199			SMALLEY, JAMES N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3727	

DATE MAILED: 11/17/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No. 10/685,893	Applicant(s) MODRELL ET AL.	
	Examiner James N. Smalley	Art Unit 3727	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) James N. Smalley. (3) _____.

(2) Matthew Welker. (4) _____.

Date of Interview: 10 November 2005.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: Claim 10.

Identification of prior art discussed: None.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments:

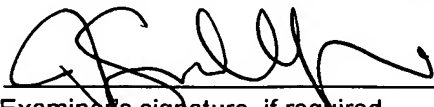
Proposed amendment to claim 10, and applied to claim 4, will overcome the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, in the outstanding Non-Final Action.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.


NATHAN J. NEWHOUSE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Interview Discussion Topics

Clarification of 112 issues:

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, we would like to discuss the claim language, which is causing the problem with respect to describing the interior surface wall of Fig. 4 and hope to determine appropriate language to overcome the 112 rejection.

Additionally, we would like to discuss and differentiate the present invention, with respect to the interior surface, in comparison to the prior art documents '426, Fig. 2, and '082, Fig. 7.

In our response to the office action, we would like to file amended claims which narrow the claims to the specific elements of the interior surface wall, which are novel and non-obvious over the prior art.

We do not anticipate or expect the Examiner to state their conclusion with respect to the novelty and non-obvious nature of the present invention, but to only assist in developing appropriate claim language to describe the present invention as depicted in Fig. 4, so that if Examiner's later determines after considering our response to the office action that the present invention is novel and non-obvious, that there will be no remaining 112 issues.

Proposed Amended Claims

I am not sure that these proposed amended claims fix the angular/slope issues, but if proper claim language can be accomplished during the phone interview, these would be the claims proposed in our response, with all others being cancelled. This would result in a very narrow patent claim for the present invention, which we feel is novel and non-obvious over the prior art and will result in what we hope to be a shortened labor period for Examiner to review the amended claims and make a determination on their patentability.

10. (ORIGINAL) A base lid comprising:

a body having a bottom wall and a side wall;

said side wall having an interior surface and exterior surface, the interior surface of the wall defining the opening;

said body consisting of a tab positioned on the side of the body;

the defining opening created by the body, side wall, and bottom defining a round opening.;

an interior wall with recessed and protruding areas;

said interior wall which becomes thicker at a linear rate from the opening toward the bottom of the base lid the transitions to become thinner in an exponential manner until a predetermined thickness is achieved and then remains at a constant thickness until the base wall is reached;

said linear rate creating an interior protrusion is between 10 degrees and 20 degrees.

10. (PROPOSED AMENDMENT) A base lid comprising:

a body having a bottom wall and a side wall;

said side wall having an interior surface and exterior surface, the interior surface of the wall defining the opening;

said body consisting of a tab positioned on the side of the body;

the defining opening created by the body, side wall, and bottom defining a round opening.;

an interior wall with recessed and protruding areas;

said interior wall thickness increases [which becomes thicker] at a linear slope rate from the opening toward the bottom of the base lid and defining a protrusion at a small radial arc, said interior wall thickness then decreases at a linear rate defining an angular slope

toward the exterior wall, and [the transitions to become thinner in an exponential manner until a predetermined thickness is achieved and] then remains at a constant wall thickness until the base wall is reached;

said linear rate creating an interior protrusion is between 10 degrees and 20 degrees.